

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 823

By Keisling

A RESOLUTION to recognize the Sergeant Alvin C. York State Historic Park upon being named 2017 State Park of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly honor those fine parks of Tennessee's State Parks system that consistently excel in their mission to preserve and protect the unique natural, cultural, and historic resources of this State; and

WHEREAS, the Sergeant Alvin C. York State Historic Park was recently named 2017 State Park of the Year by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, distinguishing it as a premier destination for visitors from both near and far; and

WHEREAS, designated a National Historic Landmark in 1977, the Sergeant Alvin C. York State Historic Park draws audiences and volunteers from across the country, giving Tennessee a national voice in the history of the important era of World War I; and

WHEREAS, the former home of its namesake, World War I hero Alvin C. York, the park offers tours of the York home daily and features a visitor's center that is modeled after Sergeant York's general store; and

WHEREAS, in November 2017, in honor of the centennial of World War I and Veterans Day, the park organized a weekend of large-scale living history programming, including reenacted trench assaults and a vintage football game; since then, living history programming at the park has continued to expand: Park visitors can explore World War I equipment, eat a sample meal of wartime rations, or spend the night in recreated trenches; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 State Park of the Year honor is not the first to be bestowed upon the Sergeant Alvin C. York State Historic Park; the Annual Park Awards of Excellence program also recognized the park with the 2016 Excellence in Interpretation Award; and

WHEREAS, the Sergeant Alvin C. York State Historic Park is a true Tennessee treasure, and it is fitting that it be recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate the Sergeant Alvin C. York State Historic Park and its employees upon the park's selection as the 2017 State Park of the Year and extend our best wishes for the park's continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.